

Kirk in the Hills 2018 Fall Series

The Gospels: Churches at the Four Corners



This fall, you are invited to sit in the pews of four different churches called Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Come and explore the story of Jesus Christ as Rev. Dr. Thomas Long, a renowned preacher and author, kicks off our fall series on the four gospels, followed by many other prominent scholars. The four gospels—compelling in their similarities, surprising in their differences, and rich in their stories—coalesce to depict a comprehensive picture of life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Come and grow with us as we re-examine our faith through the lens of four gospels!

October 6 & 7 • Dr. Tom Long, Theologian-in-Residence

Bandy Professor Emeritus of Preaching and Director of the Early Career Pastoral Leadership Program
Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Atlanta, GA

Saturday, October 6 • Preaching Lab

Local pastors and students, along with Kirk members and friends, are invited to join!

1:00–2:00 p.m. Plenary by Tom Long
2:15–3:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions
(see registration page for details)
3:15–4:00 p.m. Panel Discussion/Closing Remarks



Sunday, October 7 • Sermons and Lecture

Join us as we listen to “One of the Twelve Best Preachers in America” as noted by CNN!

9:15 and 11:00 a.m. Sermon: *The Window*
1:00 p.m. Lecture: Closing Remarks
The Gospels: Churches at the Four Corners

Sunday, October 14

Lectures:
10:30 a.m. St. Andrew’s Room
12:15 p.m. Heritage Hall

What to Do On the Sabbath: The Gospel of Mark

Rev. Dr. Stephanie Crowder

Associate Professor of Theological Field Education and New Testament
Director of the ACTS Doctor of Ministry in Preaching Program
Chicago Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL



Sunday, October 21

Lectures:
12:15 p.m. Heritage Hall

The Gospel According to Matthew

Rev. Dr. Matthew Skinner

Professor of New Testament
Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, MN



Sunday, October 28

Lectures:
10:30 a.m. St. Andrew’s Room
12:15 p.m. Heritage Hall

What Does Luke’s World Have to Do with Us?

Rev. Dr. Robert Brawley

Albert G. McGaw Professor of New Testament Emeritus
McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, IL



Sunday, November 4

Lectures:
10:30 a.m. St. Andrew’s Room
12:15 p.m. Heritage Hall

A Life of Faith According to the Gospel of John

Rev. Dr. Karoline M. Lewis

Associate Professor of Biblical Preaching
The Marbury E. Anderson Chair of Biblical Preaching
Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, MN



**Register at kirkinthehills.org under Resources/Online Registration. No admission fee.
Childcare up to age six available with pre-registration.
For more information, contact (248) 973-8011**



1340 West Long Lake Road • Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302
(248) 626-2515 • kirkinthehills.org

About our speakers...



Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Long is, according to CNN, "One of the Twelve Best Preachers in America." He holds the Master of Divinity from Erskine Theological Seminary and the PhD from Princeton Theological Seminary. He is Bandy Professor Emeritus of Preaching and Director of the Early Career Pastoral Leadership Program at Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. He is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA) and editor-at-large for *The Christian Century* magazine. In addition, Dr. Long has taught homiletics (the history, theory, and practice of preaching) at Candler School of Theology, Columbia Theological Seminary, as well as Princeton Theological Seminary. He is in great demand for speaking engagements and has led preaching workshops at numerous other theological schools. He is a 'prince of preachers' and has graced the pulpits of many of America's largest and most influential churches. His first textbook, *The Witness of Preaching*, has been translated into a number of languages and is widely used in theological schools around the world. An award-winning author, Dr. Long has written 18 significant Christian books, including *Preaching from Memory to Hope*, *Testimony as a Christian Practice*, and several commentaries, including those on the Gospel of Matthew, the book of Hebrews, and the Pastoral Epistles. His wife, Kimberly, also a Presbyterian minister, is Professor of Worship at Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta.

Saturday Preaching Lab Breakout Session Leaders



Rev. Lis Valle-Ruiz is Assistant Professor of Homiletics and Worship at McCormick Theological Seminary. She is a PhD Candidate at the Graduate Department of Religion at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee in the Homiletics and Liturgics program. Her research focus is on performance, embodiment, gender, and sexuality, from ecofeminist and decolonial perspectives. She is now writing her dissertation about prophetic performance and disruptive preaching. Her background includes a B.A. in education, major in theater, and J.D. from the University of Puerto Rico, M.Div. from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and Th.M. from Princeton Theological Seminary.



Rev. Dr. Nathaniel D. Phillips is the fifth called Senior Pastor/Head of Staff at Kirk in the Hills. He was elected by the congregation on February 5, 2017, and began his work in April 2017. Nate (as he prefers to be called) came to the Kirk from Red Clay Creek Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware, where he served as Associate Pastor (2006–2011), and Co-Pastor (2011–2017). He leads the congregation not only in worship, but also in practically every endeavor of the church. The Pastor Nominating Committee who brought Nate to the Kirk lists the reasons they believe that God called Nate to the Kirk: contagious love of Jesus Christ; heart for the Presbyterian Church; missional church thinker; relational bridge builder; and collaborative leader. Nate was born and raised in Skowhegan, Maine.

He received his BA in Psychology from the University of Maine, his Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, and his Doctor of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Ari, were married in 2001, and they have four children. Nate likes the Boston Red Sox, mountain biking, running, volleyball, Wendell Berry, and growing things.



Rev. Dr. Paul Simpson Duke is Co-Pastor (partnering with Stacey Simpson Duke) of First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor. He has taught courses in Homiletics and New Testament at McAfee School of Theology, Ecumenical Theological Seminary, and Central Baptist Theological Seminary. He has a PhD in New Testament Literature, and has written three books: *Irony in the Fourth Gospel*, *Anguish and the Word: Preaching that Touches Pain* (with David Nelson Duke); and *The Parables: A Preaching Commentary*. He has given lectures and sermons at numerous colleges, universities, seminaries, and pastors' conferences, including The Festival of Homiletics.



Rev. Dr. Stephanie Buckhanon Crowder is Associate Professor of New Testament and Vice President of Academic Affairs & Academic Dean at Chicago Theological Seminary. Professor Crowder is a Bible in/and pop culture educator. Her focus on New Testament literature provides the lens for traversing the re-contextualization of such texts in present media. While engaging what she terms "womanist maternal thought," she explores ways in which the Bible speaks to current-day motherhood through an African American lens. As a dually-aligned National Baptist and Disciples of Christ minister, Professor Crowder employs creative code-switching means to communicate in both the church and the academy. Through field education she purports an interdisciplinary approach to vocation exploration.



Rev. Dr. Matt Skinner is Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, MN. Before joining the seminary's faculty in 2002, he earned degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary and Brown University. In his teaching and writing, he emphasizes the importance of knowing about the cultural settings the New Testament writings came from, the ways these books tell their stories, and the Bible's potential for fueling our imaginations about who God is and what God makes possible. He explores the Bible's connections to faith and life in his writings and other resources, including his most recent books, *A Companion to the New Testament* (3 vols.), and a weekly podcast for preachers that he co-hosts, *Sermon Brainwave*. Ordained as a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Skinner has a reputation as an engaging and accessible teacher in classrooms as well as at conferences and in congregations.



Rev. Robert L. Brawley joined the McCormick faculty in 1992 as Professor of New Testament after a 13-year tenure at Memphis Theological Seminary. He retired from McCormick in 2007. Brawley was born in 1939 in Charlotte, North Carolina. He received a Master of Divinity degree from Erskine Theological Seminary, a Master of Sacred Theology from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, and his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. He began his teaching career in 1965 at the Seminario Teológico Presbiteriano Asociado Reformado in Rio Verde, Mexico, and taught at Beaver College, Glenside, PA as well as Memphis Theological Seminary. In addition, he has held pastorates in Rock Hill, SC, and Philadelphia, PA.



Rev. Dr. Karoline M. Lewis is the author of *SHE: Five Keys to Unlock the Power of Women in Ministry* (including an accompanying facilitator guide, participant guide, and DVD), *John: Fortress Biblical Preaching Commentaries*, as well as numerous articles for *The Christian Century*, *Feasting on the Word*, *Feasting on the Gospels*, *Currents in Theology and Mission*, *Lutheran Forum*, *Word & World*, *Abingdon Preaching Annual*, and *Odyssey Network's ON Scripture*. She was also one of the 100 religious scholars in the United States to contribute to the Values and Voices Campaign (valuesandvoices.com). Lewis is the Program Director of the Festival of Homiletics, the Director of the Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Preaching Program at Luther Seminary, and leads conferences, workshops, and retreats internationally on the Gospel of John, the New Testament, interpreting the bible, preaching, leadership, and women in ministry. She is a

contributing writer for WorkingPreacher.org, author of the site's *Dear Working Preacher* column, and co-host of the site's weekly podcast, *Sermon Brainwave*. Visit her website, www.karolinelewis.com for more information about Karoline.